

Assad informed Secretary Christopher that all remaining Jewish families were free to leave Syria. The liberal Jewish emigration procedures soon resumed, and the Department of State informs me that all but 118 Jewish individuals have been granted exit visas and left Syria. The majority of these families decided to resettle in the United States, specifically in Brooklyn, where a thriving Syrian Jewish community of about 35,000 exists. The State Department reports none of these remaining Syrian Jews have reported Syrian government persecution, and that many plan to emigrate soon.

I was first made aware of Syria's emigration policy toward its Jewish community when I met with President Assad this past June in Damascus. In discussion, President Assad referenced this emigration policy as an example of Syria's continuing good faith effort to propel forward the Middle-East peace process. He did not, but some in the Syrian government did, observe that no statement of acknowledgment of Syria's following through on its emigration commitment had ever been entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. I wish to correct that oversight now.

Emigration is a basic human right that all responsible nations respect and allow. I commend President Assad for joining the community of nations that seek to guarantee this human right. In an attempt to create a conducive atmosphere toward fostering the peace process, President Assad allowed Syrian Jews to emigrate. Six years have passed since this policy began. It is time that recognition and approbation be properly given.

STATE SENATOR J. DOYLE  
CORMAN, A STATESMAN FOR  
THE PEOPLE

### HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 8, 1998*

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of the great statesmen from my District. Sir Walter Scott, one of Scotland's great historical authors and poets, wrote in *The Lady of the Lake* of "[t]he will to do, the soul to dare." No phrase is more attributable to Pennsylvania State Senator J. Doyle Corman. For the last 21 years, Doyle Corman has served as State Senator to the 34th District which includes Centre, Juniata, Mifflin and Perry Counties. During this time, I have had the distinct pleasure of representing these counties as part of the Ninth Congressional District and working hand-in-hand with Doyle to help improve the lives of our mutual constituents.

After a stellar career in service to his country and his friends and neighbors, Doyle has decided to retire. His resume speaks for itself: Army veteran, Centre County Commissioner, president of SEDA-COG, State Committeeman, president of Corman Associates, Inc., Republican Chairman of the State Senate Transportation Committee, Republican Policy Chairman, Majority Caucus Administrator, member of the State Transportation Commission, PHEAA board member, and member of the Local Government, Games & Fisheries, and Rules and Executive Nominations committees. The recipient of many honors and

awards, Doyle's success as State Senator leaves behind a powerful legacy to everyone who knows him.

For many years Doyle and I have worked on numerous projects to enhance the safety of our constituents and overall improve our region. One such notable example is the PA Rt. 322 "Missing Link" project in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania. Responsible for numerous fatalities, this deadly stretch of two-lane highway was a problem that could only be solved by replacing it with a modern four-lane corridor. Doyle tirelessly worked with the Pennsylvania State Legislature and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation to secure the necessary state funding while I acted in a similar capacity on the federal level. Today, I am happy to report that, as a result of our combined efforts, the "Missing Link" is under construction and nearing completion. I can honestly say that without the benefit of Doyle's support and diligent guidance this critical project would still be only a concept.

It has been truly a great honor to work with such a distinguished individual as Doyle, and I am sad to see him go. I congratulate him on a magnificent career and hope he enjoys the best retirement has to offer. In the words of Walter Lippmann, a noted journalist, "The final test of a leader is that he leaves behind him in other men the conviction and the will to carry on." I know for a fact that Doyle has accomplished this task. I am one of the "other men" who will work hard to continue Doyle's legacy.

Even though he is retiring, I know that we have not heard the last from Doyle Corman. As his history has proven, I am sure Doyle will continue to offer his knowledge and expertise when needed. Mr. Speaker, I am sure you will join me in celebration of State Senator J. Doyle Corman's extraordinary service to the State of Pennsylvania. He is truly a great man, a great leader, a great American, and I wish him well in private life.

THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH  
OF SAN MATEO

### HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 8, 1998*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor for me to invite my colleagues in the Congress to join me in recognizing the Community Baptist Church of San Mateo, which is celebrating its 50th Anniversary on October 11, 1998.

The Community Baptist Church was originally dedicated as the San Mateo Chinese Baptist Community Center in 1948. The primary purpose of the church was to bring Christianity into the lives of Chinese Americans throughout the Peninsula. But what has evolved from this mission is a second purpose which is similarly special and valuable—to provide a community cultural center where the heritage, language, and customs of Chinese Americans are preserved for future generations.

Mr. Speaker, the Community Baptist Church of San Mateo was the product of a mission program established by Mother Margarita Garton and the First Baptist Church of Bur-

lingame, California. Community Baptist Church spent many years establishing itself in and contributing to the community, growing and thriving to meet the needs of its rapidly expanding membership. The church's increasing significance was evidence in 1963 by the construction of a sanctuary on its current site on South Humboldt Street in San Mateo. Three years later, Sunday School classrooms were added to the building, and during the 1980's a multi-storied Conference Center and Nursery was erected.

The Community Baptist Church has endeavored to meet the needs of the expanding population of Cantonese-speaking Chinese Americans in San Mateo County. In 1990 the Community Baptist Church initiated full dual ministries in both English and Cantonese, with strong pastoral leadership serving both segments of a unified church. Since 1995, the church has provided the community with weekly classes in the Cantonese language, which have awakened interest in and informed students about their Chinese heritage.

As Community Baptist Church was the product of a mission program, it has continuously supported the American Baptist Mission Program, and the church has been recognized numerous times by the American Baptist Churches, USA for its contributions to this cause.

The church has also served for many years as a learning facility for the Minister-in-Training program for graduate seminary students. These students have gone on to serve as pastors of their own churches or as staff members of the American Budget Churches of the West.

Most notable of its numerous achievements, the Community Baptist Church has developed into a close-knit and supportive family. Many of its young members have grown into strong church and community leaders who now serve throughout California and across our nation.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize and thank the Reverend Norman Owyang and his congregation at the Community Baptist Church for their outstanding contributions to the people of San Mateo and the Peninsula. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Reverend Owyang and the Community Church of San Mateo another half century of prosperity and continuing service to our community.

### PROTECTING ISRAEL

### HON. TOM DELAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 8, 1998*

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I worked with Mr. SAXTON and Mr. SALMON to introduce a resolution calling on the President to clarify American policy with respect to a unilateral declaration of an independent Palestinian state. I did this because I feel the administration's policy regarding Israel and the Middle East process has been confusing and misleading not only for the American people, but for the international community at large, and especially for the parties to the peace process itself.

The United States has never endorsed the creation of a Palestinian state. After the signing of Oslo accords, the United States made it clear that all questions of sovereignty and statehood were a matter of negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians. However,